CSCI 275: Programming Abstractions

Lecture 24: MiniScheme F (Lambdas)

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Functional Language of the Week: Rust

- 19th on the top 50 languages list
- I think the language that has transformed SE development the most in the last decade
  - Went public in 2010
  - Originally from Mozilla (creators of Firefox)
- What 241 is now taught in!

In the forward to the Rust Book: “the Rust programming language is fundamentally about *empowerment*: no matter what kind of code you are writing now, Rust empowers you to reach farther, to program with confidence in a wider variety of domains than you did before.”

Main use case? **Systems programming**

Functional Language of the Week: Rust

Core functional features in Rust are:

- Closures

```
fn  add_one_v1   (x: u32) -> u32 { x + 1 }
let add_one_v2 = |x: u32| -> u32 { x + 1 };
let add_one_v3 = |x|             { x + 1 };
let add_one_v4 = |x|               x + 1  ;
```

Same type inference idea that we saw in Kotlin & discussed with Typed Racket

- Iterators
  - They look at the performance and find that iterators are actually faster than loops: https://doc.rust-lang.org/book/ch13-04-performance.html

Reminder: Why MiniScheme?

Next 3 Lectures: MiniScheme Conclusion

Goal: go over key ideas behind the remaining parts of MiniScheme

What's left?

- lambdas: today
- `set!` and `begin`: Friday
- Recursion: Monday

It's quite a bit of **content:** goal is get the main ideas from the slides, then ***review them when doing HW8***

What's left in the MiniScheme Grammar?

EXP → number	parse into `lit-exp`
| symbol	parse into `var-exp`
| (if *EXP EXP EXP*)	parse into `ite-exp`
| (let (*LET-BINDINGS*) *EXP*)	parse into `let-exp`
| (letrec (*LET-BINDINGS*) *EXP*)	
| (lambda (*PARAMS*) *EXP*)	parse into `lambda-exp`
| (set! symbol *EXP*)	parse into `set-exp`
| (begin *EXP**)	parse into `begin-exp`
| (*EXP EXP**)	parse into `app-exp`

LET-BINDINGS → *LET-BINDING**

LET-BINDING → [symbol *EXP*]*

PARAMS → symbol*

Restatement of our Overall Goal

We have a language called MiniScheme, which we are building up piece-by-piece

We have a *formal* model of how it should work in a grammar, i.e., we know how to write it down

Our task: give it meaning – practically, determine values

Why do we need to do this?

`(if (gt? 2 3) (+ 2 3) 3)` could mean *anything*

We need to determine if it is:

- A valid MiniScheme expression - *parser*
- What value it would have - *interpreter*
  - Could be True, False, 5, 3, etc.

Real World Example: CPython

If you’ve ever heard “Python is implemented in C”, it *really is*

The backend of the Python interpreter is written in C, you can look at the source here:

https://github.com/python/cpython

Details of how parsing works for Python: https://github.com/python/cpython/blob/main/InternalDocs/compiler.md

Back to MiniScheme Key Ideas

Review: How do we parse an application like `(+ 2 3)`?

A. `(app-exp + 2 3)`

B. `(app-exp + (2 3))`

C. `(app-exp (var-exp '+) (lit-exp 2) (lit-exp 3))`

D. `(app-exp (var-exp '+) (list (lit-exp 2) (lit-exp 3)))`

E. None of the above

At a higher level…

```
(app-exp (var-exp '+)
    (list (lit-exp 2) (lit-exp 3)))
```

Applications are parsed into two parts

- The expression for the procedure part
- The list of parsed arguments

Reminder: Evaluating an `app-exp`

How do we evaluate the `app-exp` we get from `(app-exp parsed-proc list-of-parsed-args)`?

In steps:

1. We evaluate the `parsed-proc` and the `list-of-parsed-args` in the current environment

2. Then we call `apply-proc` with the evaluated procedure and list of arguments

```
(define eval-exp ...
[(app-exp? tree)
 (let ([proc (eval-exp (app-exp-proc tree) e)]
       [args (map ... (app-exp-args tree))])
   (apply-proc proc args))]
```

Now, let's add Lambdas

EXP → number	parse into `lit-exp`
| symbol	parse into `var-exp`
| (if *EXP EXP EXP*)	parse into `ite-exp`
| (let (*LET-BINDINGS*) *EXP*)	parse into `let-exp`
| (lambda (*PARAMS*) *EXP*)	parse into `lambda-exp`
| (*EXP EXP**)	parse into `app-exp`

LET-BINDINGS → *LET-BINDING**

LET-BINDING → [symbol *EXP*]*

PARAMS → symbol*

Lambdas, in two stages

First, we want to think about parsing & evaluating *just* lambdas

```
MS> (lambda (x) x)
```

Second, we want to think about *applying* lambdas

```
MS> ((lambda (x) x) 45)
```

Parsing lambdas

Parse a lambda expression such as `(lambda (x y z) body)` into a new `lambda-exp` data type

This needs

- The parameter list, e.g., `'(x y z)`
- the parsed `body`

Note that the **parameter list is not parsed**, it's just a list of symbols

Just like the symbols for binding in `let-exp`

Aside: let isn't really required in Scheme

Consider this let expression

```
(define (foo x)
  (let ([y (+ x 10)]
        [z (bar x)])
    (+ y z)))
```

We can rewrite it with a lambda

```
(define (foo x)
  ((λ (y z)
     (+ y z))
   (+ x 10)
   (bar x)))
```

Evaluating for Lambdas

What should a `lambda-exp` evaluate to?

In other words, what is the result of evaluating something like `(lambda (x) (+ x y))`?

Reminder: closures

The expression of `(lambda parameters body…)` evaluates to a *closure* consisting of

- The parameter list (a list of identifiers)
- The body as un-evaluated expressions (often just one expression)
- The environment (the mapping of identifiers to values) **at the time the lambda expression is evaluated**

Closures!

We need a `(closure params body env)` data type!

```
(closure? obj)
(closure-params c)
(closure-body c)
(closure-env c)
```

closure data type

The `params` and the `body` come directly from the `lambda-exp`

The `env` is the current environment argument to `eval-exp`

Where should the new closure data type be defined? Why?

A. `parse.rkt`

B. `interp.rkt`

C. `closure.rkt`

D. `minischeme.rkt`

Summary of Handling `MS> (lambda (x) x)`

To parse a lambda

- Make a new `lambda-exp` object to hold parameters and body

To evaluate a lambda

- Make a new `closure` object to hold the parameters, body, and environment

Next *Calling* Lambda Expressions

```
MS> ((lambda (x) x) 45)
```

Nothing new is needed for **parsing** calls to lambda expressions; why?

```
(let ([f (lambda (x) (+ x y))])
   (f (- a b)))
```

Parsing Calls `MS> ((lambda (x) x) 45)`

Answer: they are just application expressions!

```
(let ([f (lambda (x) (+ x y))])
  (f (- a b)))
```

parses to:

```
 (app-exp (var-exp ‘f)
    (list (app-exp (var-exp ‘-)
    (list (var-exp 'a) (var-exp 'b))))))
```

Example: `((lambda (x y) (+ x y)) 3 5)`

Parse into an (`app-exp proc args`)

```
(app-exp (lambda-exp '(x y)
             (app-exp (var-exp '+)
                      (list (var-exp 'x)
                            (var-exp 'y))))
         (list (lit-exp 3)
               (lit-exp 5)))
```

For evaluating: we only handle primitives atm

Recall: All applications are evaluated by calling `apply-proc` with the evaluated procedure and the list of evaluated arguments

Here's what our apply-proc looks like after HW6

```
(define (apply-proc proc args)
  (cond [(prim-proc? proc)
         (apply-primitive-op
               (prim-proc-op proc) args)]
        [else (error ...)]))
```

Evaluating calls to closures

We need to add some code before the `else` to handle calls to closures!

```
(define (apply-proc proc args)
  (cond [(prim-proc? proc)
         (apply-primitive-op
           (prim-proc-op proc) args)]
        [(closure? proc) …]
        [else (error ...)]))
```

Reminder: When to extend an environment?

There are only two places where an environment is extended:

A. Let expressions

B. Procedure calls

How do we evaluate the closure?

In general in Racket, given a closure and some arguments, how do we evaluate calling the closure?

Steps

- Extend the closure's environment with bindings from the closure's parameters to argument values
- Evaluate the body of the closure in this extended environment

If you find yourself wanting to pass the environment from `eval-exp` to `apply-proc`, there is something wrong; you don't need to do that

The *Closure's* Environment

When we apply the closure to argument expressions

- we evaluate the arguments in the current environment
- extend the **closure's** environment with bindings of parameters to argument values
- evaluate the closure's body in the extended environment

MiniScheme (and Racket) are *lexically scoped* languages –we'll talk more about this next week!

Evaluating `((lambda (x y) (+ x y)) 3 5)`

```
(app-exp (lambda-exp '(x y)
                     (app-exp (var-exp '+)
                              (list (var-exp 'x)
                                    (var-exp 'y))))
         (list (lit-exp 3) (lit-exp 5)))
```

This is evaluated by calling `apply-proc` with the evaluated procedure and evaluated arguments

Evaluating the procedure part of the `app-exp` gives

```
(closure '(x y)
         (app-exp (var-exp '+)
                  (list (var-exp 'x) (var-exp 'y)))
         e)
```

Evaluating the arguments gives `'(3 5)`

Evaluating `((lambda (x y) (+ x y)) 3 5)`

`apply-proc` will evaluate the closure

```
(closure '(x y)
         (app-exp (var-exp '+)
                  (list (var-exp 'x) (var-exp 'y)))
         e)
```

by calling `eval-exp` on the body in the environment

$e[x \mapsto 3, y \mapsto 5]$

Since the body is an `app-exp`, it'll evaluate `(var-exp '+)` to get `(prim-proc '+)` and the arguments to get `'(3 5)`

Another Example: Parsing

What is the result of parsing this?

```
(let ([f (lambda (x) (* 2 x))])
  (f 6))
```

Another Example: Parsing

What is the result of parsing this?

```
(let ([f (lambda (x) (* 2 x))])
   (f 6))
```

Result:

```
(let-exp '(f)
         (list (lambda-exp
                 '(x)
                 (app-exp (var-exp '*)
                          (list (lit-exp 2)
                                (var-exp 'x)))))
         (app-exp (var-exp 'f)
                  (list (lit-exp 6))))
```

Reminder: Evaluating `let` expressions

1. Evaluate each of the binding expressions in the `let-exp`

2. Bind the symbols to these values by extending the current environment

3. Evaluate the body of the let expression using the extended environment

Another Example: Evaluating

```
(let-exp '(f)
         (list (lambda-exp
                 '(x)
                 (app-exp (var-exp '*)
                          (list (lit-exp 2)
                                (var-exp 'x)))))
         (app-exp (var-exp 'f)
                  (list (lit-exp 6))))
```

Only one binding in the `let`

Evaluate the `let-exp` by extending the current environment `e` with `f` bound to the closure we get by evaluating the `lambda-exp` in environment `e`

Another Example: Evaluating

With `f` bound to

```
(closure '(x)
              (app-exp (var-exp '*)
                       (list (lit-exp 2) (var-exp 'x)))
               e)
```

we next evaluate the body of the let

```
(app-exp (var-exp 'f) (list (lit-exp 6)))
```

This will evaluate `(var-exp 'f)`—getting the closure above—and evaluate the arguments getting `'(6)`

`apply-proc` will call `eval-exp` on the body of the closure and the environment `e[x ↦ 6]`

This is another application expression, and the process continues!